



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Sandy Hook Elementary School Day of Mourning**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Newtown and the State of Connecticut were victim to horrific acts of violence that occurred shortly after 9:30 a.m. at Sandy Hook Elementary School on Friday, December 14, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the lives of twenty young children, all six or seven years old, and six educators were violently taken at that school by a solitary gunman; and

**WHEREAS**, the massacre was the second deadliest school shooting and the second deadliest mass murder at an elementary school in United States history; and

**WHEREAS**, the bravery and dedication of Sandy Hook Elementary School staff and first responders prevented the further loss of life; and

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of other schoolchildren and educators at that school continue to mourn the shocking loss of their classmates and colleagues; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rhode Island State Police and the Office of Health and Human Services have offered the full support of the State of Rhode Island to the people and State of Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of Rhode Island convey our sincere condolences and sympathy to the families and loved ones of those affected by this tragedy, and our thoughts and prayers are with them; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim December 21, 2012 as Sandy Hook Elementary School Day of Mourning in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this day with a moment of silence at 9:30 a.m. and ask that buildings, which have the ability, ring bells twenty-six times during that moment in honor of each life that was taken.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2012

**Lincoln D. Chafee**  
Governor

**A. Ralph Mollis**  
Secretary of State